

(((((( | Z\*Net International Atari Online Magazine  
 (( | -----  
 (( | April 10, 1992 Issue #92-15  
 (( | -----  
 ((((( | Copyright (c)1992, Rovac Industries, Inc.  
 (( | Post Office Box 59, Middlesex, NJ 08846  
 (( |  
 ((((( | CONTENTS  
 (( |  
 ((((( | \* The Editors Desk.....Ron Kovacs  
 ((((( | \* ACE '92 Exclusive Eyewitness Report.....David Pischke  
 ((((( | \* ACE '92 Report.....Jerry Cross  
 (( (( | \* MultiTos Preview.....David Pischke  
 (( (( | \* Calamus SL - A First Look.....John Nagy  
 (( (( | \* Perusing CompuServe.....Mike Mortilla  
 (( (( | \* Basic AT Commands - Part 2.....  
 ((((( | \* Lynx Reviews.....AtariUser Magazine  
 (( | \* Z\*Net Software Shelf.....Ron Berinstein  
 (( |  
 ((((( | ~ Publisher/Editor.....Ron Kovacs  
 ((((( | ~ Contributing Editor.....John Nagy  
 ((((( | ~ Z\*Net Newswire Ltd.....Jon Clarke  
 (( | ~ Contributing Editor.....Bruce Hansford  
 (( | ~ PD Software Reviews.....Ron Berinstein  
 (( | ~ Reporter.....Mike Brown  
 (( | ~ Assistant News Editor.....Mike Davis  
 (( | ~ Z\*Net Canadian Correspondent.....Terry Schreiber  
 (( | ~ Columnist.....Ed Krimen  
 (( | ~ Columnist.....Mike Mortilla  
 (( | ~ UK Columnist.....Mick Jarvis  
 (( | ~ Features Editor.....Dr. Paul Keith  
 -----  
 ONLINE | \$ GENie Address.....Z-NET  
 AREAS | \$ CompuServe Address.....75300,1642  
 | \$ Delphi Address.....ZNET  
\$ Internet/Usenet Address.....status.gen.nz
\$ America Online Address.....ZNET1991
 -----  
 Z\*NET | \* Z\*Net:USA New Jersey...(FNET 593).....(908) 968-8148  
 SUPPORT | \* Z\*Net:Golden Gate.....(FNET 706).....(510) 373-6792  
 SYSTEMS | \* Z\*Net:South Pacific....(FNET 693).NZ....(644) 4762-852  
 | \* Z\*Net:Pacific .(INTERNET/@status.gen.nz)(649) 3585-543  
 | \* Z\*Net:South Jersey.....(FNET 168).CCBBS.(609) 451-7475  
 | \* Z\*Net:Illinois (Garage)(FNET 621).....(618) 344-8466  
 | \* Z\*Net:Colorado (Mile High)(FNET 5).....(303) 431-1404  
 | \* Z\*Net:Wyoming (Stormbringer)(FNET 635)...(307) 638-7036  
 | \* Z\*Net:Texas (Hacker's Haven)(FNET 705)...(512) 653-3056  
 | \* Z\*Net:Florida (Twilight Zone)(FNET 304)...(407) 831-1613  
 | Fido Address 1:363/112  
 ======  
 \* THE EDITORS DESK by Ron Kovacs  
 ======

A few birthday announcements... Belated birthday wishes to John Nagy  
 who recently celebrated his hmmmmmm, 30 something birthday and Bob  
 Brodie who also celebrated a 30 something birthday also.

=====

\* ACE '92 EXCLUSIVE EYEWITNESS REPORT by David Pischke

=====

1992 will be remembered for several things: as the year of the controversial 1992 US Presidential elections, as the first anniversary of the Persian Gulf War, and as the year Johnny Carson retired.

But Atarians will remember 1992 for something far more important: Atarians will remember 1992 as the year TAF hosted a dynamite convention, the biggest Atari event in North America in 1992. The 1992 Atari Canadian Exposition, or ACE '92, was a success by all means. The convention floor was well-travelled, the talent show was a success, and the seminars were well-attended and well-presented. Sales appeared to be brisk, and around 2500-3500 people attended the convention. If there were any doubts that Atari is on an upswing, ACE '92 put them to rest -- the atmosphere was definitely positive. Even June Rowlands, Toronto's politically incorrect mayor, wished showgoers well in a letter in the program.

There was a talent show, dealer and developer meetings, a gala banquet and many seminars, but the "meat" of the show was the exhibitors; many dealers and developers were there. Free copies of Atari Explorer, The Computer Paper and Atari Advantage were being given out. There were many deals to be had, and many new products were being demonstrated for the first time. Unfortunately, Atari's new 68030 machines were demonstrated only to developers, not to the general public, but MultiTOS was being demonstrated.

#### EXHIBITORS

##### ABC Solutions

ABC Solutions of Mississauga, Ont., a newcomer to the Atari market, was demonstrating the latest version of First Word Plus, the popular word processing program. The latest version is fully TT-compatible and has several enhancements. Timeworks Desktop Publisher 2 was also there; Version 2 of Timeworks DTP is much more advanced than version 1, and includes full WYSIWYG, paragraph tagging, manual control of kerning, a wide range of text and graphics imports, and a variety of typefaces. Updates were available for users of the older versions.

A new program, TBX CAD, by a local developer was also there, and First Graph, a program devoted to graphing, was there. First Graph outputs using GDOS and FSM/GDOS; can import ASCII and DIF files; can create many different types of graphs, including pie, line, bar, column, area, 3-D and scatter graphs; interpolation, curve-fitting, and full control of text and graphic placement are all allowed. All this without a spreadsheet.

##### Atari

The Atari booth was always full. Bill Rehbock demonstrated MultiTOS, and Bob Brodie spent much of his time there demonstrating products and answering questions. There was a setup of Lynxes, and there were 1040STes, Mega STes, TTs and STBooks on display. There was also an "Atari museum", featuring old Atari hardware from the 2600 to the 800 to the XE Game System.

### **Atari Explorer**

John Jainschigg, Editor and Publisher and Editor of Atari Explorer was in the Atari Explorer booth along with Peter Donoso, the managing editor, and free copies of the February and March/April issues of Atari Explorer were being given out. In addition, there were special convention subscription rates.

### **Atari Interface**

Bill and Patty Rayl were in the Atari Interface booth, selling copies of the excellent Atari Interface Magazine and selling their PD disks for Spectre/Mac, 8-bit and ST. A Lode Runner-type game, Gold Seeker, was on display for everyone to play and was available on the ST April 1992 Disk of the Month. Also being shown was Silhouette, Maxwell CPU's object-oriented drawing and autotracing program which can convert from bitmapped images of many formats into vector images.

### **Branch Always Software**

Darek Mihocka was in the Branch Always Booth, demonstrating his GEMulator, which allows Windows users to run ST software. GEMulator, which runs as a combination of software and a card which holds TOS chips, is supposed to run at approximately half the speed of an 8MHz ST on a 80386 machine; Darek Mihocka says that he is working on getting the GEMulator to run at Mega STe speeds. GEMulator allows two versions of TOS to be plugged in for compatibility, and will even allow two different ST programs to be run at the same time, each with its own TOS and monitor type. Many popular programs are compatible with GEMulator, including PageStream, Calamus, GFA Basic, First Word Plus, Prism Paint, Wordflair and Degas Elite.

### **Codehead Technologies**

Codehead software was giving updates to Warp 9 for users of Quick STe. For \$25 Canadian (\$20 US) plus the original Quick ST disk, one receives the new Warp 9 accelerator. Extremely fast, it accelerates a greater number of functions faster, has a better interface, more features and fewer bugs than Quick ST. Warp 9 comes with a customiser program that allows the system fills and the system font to be edited. Warp 9 can load a picture as the desktop background, act as a mouse accelerator, and provide keyboard shortcuts for alert boxes.

Codehead also was demonstrating their other popular products.

MegaPaint, an impressive bitmap and vector-drawing program, was shown running on a 19-inch monitor. The TOS Extension Card was on sale and TOS 2.06 was being displayed. MaxiFile was being demonstrated and updates were being given out for the many other Codehead products. Repro Sutdio and Avant Vector, Codehead's graphics packages were also there, as were all the Cherry Fonts and the Genus font editor.

### **Clear Thinking Software**

Clear Thinking Software was demonstrating EdHak, version 2.3. EdHak is a ACC/PRG editor which edits not only text files, but disk sectors and memory. EdHak offers margins, tabbing, word wrap, cut and paste, and search and replace. The Atari Clipboard is supported, and EdHak even can be used as a capture buffer for STalker. A stripped-down version is included that occupies only half the memory.

### **Cybercube Research Limited**

Cybercube of Thornhill, Ont. was there with the CyReL Sunrise M16-1280 graphics card. The CyReL Sunrise is a VMEbus card that gives not only stunning graphics, but 20Mbit/s networking as well. The CyReL Sunrise can display 32-bit graphics in resolutions up to 2048x1024 -- non-

interlaced. Resolutions are totally programmable from 256x200 to 2048x1024 and Refresh rates range from 50Hz to 220Hz.

The CyReL Sunrise was shown running on a TT; the graphics were impressive, to say the least.

#### D.A. Brumleve/Fair Dinkum

Dorothy Brumleve (pronounced "Brumlevy", and not "Brumleev") was busily demonstrating her Kidprgs behind a background of Duplo blocks. Kidpublisher Professional version 6.4 was being upgraded, and people who bought 6.1 at the last TAF convention got upgraded free. Super Kidgrid, Kidpaint, and Telegram were there, and the new Multiplay, a program of "math exploration, discovery and practice" for children aged 5-11, made its debut. Multiplay adapts to the child's abilities and features games, drills and puzzles.

In the same booth were Crossword Creator and Word search creator. The two programs take the tedium out of crossword and word search creation by automatically creating and printing crosswords and word searches using point-and-click as well as keyboard commands.

#### Double Click Software

Mike Vederman and Paul Lee were in the Double Click booth, extoling the virtues of Double Click's Data Diet automatic file compression program. Data Diet can increase drive free space by compressing files on the hard drive; the compression is good and is extremely fast. Also on display was a game created with Double Click's Game Workbench, a system which allows creation of arcade-quality video games. Unfortunately, Game Workbench may take a few more months getting to the public.

Double Click was selling copies of all their products. DC Shower, a file viewer which replaces the Desktop's built-in routines; DC Desktop, a replacement Desktop, and DC Utilities were all for sale.

#### DragonWare Software

DragonWare Software was actively demonstrating G\_Man, its ASSIGN.SYS file manager. G\_Man asks a series of questions, then automatically builds a flawless ASSIGN.SYS file. In addition, G\_Man is also totally FSM/GDOS compatible, and as such, will create the FSM/GDOS EXTEND.SYS file. G\_Man also checks the integrity of the font files, can group disable up to 200 fonts at one time, can create screen font-only ASSIGN.SYS files, and includes tutorial and help menus. DragonWare also was demonstrating The Satellite Locator ST, a program which locates geosynchronous satellites anywhere on the globe and displays their path; and The Box, an 16 output MIDI Thru Adaptor. The Stacy battery pack, which allows Stacy users more time on the road.

#### FAST Technologies

Jim Allen of FAST Technologies was showing this 68030 accelerators. The TinyTurbo 030 was for sale, and it was being demonstrated running DynaCADD. The Tiny Turbo 030 uses a 40MHz 68030 and keeps an 8MHz 68000 on board for compatibility. A cache is included to speed up operations, and Virtual Memory up to 128 megs and 60MHz 68882 math co-processor running at 60MHz are optional. There was a special discount running through to April 30 that brought TinyTurbo's price down by almost half.

For those with less money, there were the Turbo20 and Turbo25, 20 and 25MHz accelerators which use the regular 68000. The Turbo25 increases

most processor operations by a factor of 300% over a standard 8MHz ST.

#### Gadgets by Small, Inc.

Dave Small hosted a seminar and tried to convince the audience that they could program. Dave Small claims to get his inspiration from Neil Diamond: he listens to Neil Diamond records while he tries to program, until the sheer agony causes his brain to come up with an idea. He also related the joy he experienced when he got his first program to work. He dropped hints about a possible colour Mac emulator.

#### Goldleaf Publishing, Inc.

Goldleaf had its entire line of DTP "solutions" at the Show. On display That's Write and Write On, two word processors which allow advanced features such as paragraph tagging, mixing of printer and That's Write fonts in one document, and password protection for documents. Wordflair II, the document processor was being shown, and Goldleaf's impressive Retouche was shown editing a picture of a bowl of fruit on a large-screen colour monitor; Didot Professional was there too. There was also MacRead, a Macintosh to ST file transfer program. It reads HFS disks, automatically strips the Mac Resource header, and stores the files on ST disks.

Goldleaf has acquired a new partner, Compo, and a new product, CompScript, which replaces the now-unsupported UltraScript ST. CompoScript is a PostScript interpreter. It comes with 30 Adobe Type 1 fonts, supports Bitstream fonts, has print preview and even uses a math coprocessor if it is installed.

Goldleaf was taking photographs and scanning them for people. Goldleaf was taking advance orders on its products, and the clipboard with names and addresses was full.

#### Gribnif Software

Gribnif was demonstrating the Crazy Dots Card, which can do 256 colors from 16.7 million in resolutions from 320x200 to 1280x800. Also available were many of Gribnif's application and utility programs. XBoot, an impressive boot manager which uses GEM from inside the AUTO folder was on sale. So were old favorites such as NeoDesk 3 and the NeoDesk CLI, STalker 3.0, STeno 2.0, and Gribnif's graphics products, Arabesque Professional and Convector Professional.

Apparently Gribnif has obtained the North American distribution rights to Pure C, formerly Borland's Turbo C. A totally English package may be in the works.

#### ICD, Inc.

ICD and ICD's Canadian Distributor, Computer Software & Services were at the show, and there were some deals. ICD's AdSpeed, AdSCSI and Advantage Plus were for sale, as were pre-packaged hard drives ranging in sizes from 52Mb to over 120Mb.

#### ISD Marketing

ISD was selling Calamus and all its accessories and companion books. Calamus SL was on display, and ISD hosted a seminar in which the new features of Calamus SL were not only demonstrated, but taught. Calamus SL includes colour separation, 24-bit colour, auto-tracing, accuracy to within 1/100,000th on an inch and magnification to 9999%.

Another unconfirmed story at the convention was that ISD is no longer handling DynaCADD, and a new distributor will be found.

#### JMG Software International

JMG Software of Hamilton, Ont. had their impressive Hyperlink program on hand. Hyperlink extends the database concept by allowing not only text and numeric fields, but icons, graphics, buttons, and boxes.

Hyperlink is similar to the Macintosh's HyperCard, and allows users to create their own applications with animation, graphics, sound, speech and hypertext. Hypertext allows text to be linked; by double-clicking on a topic in a table of contents, one can be brought directly to that topic. JMG Software has released developer information which will allow third parties to create their own extensions to Hyperlink.

#### Joppa Software Development

Straight Fax, a fax program, was at the Joppa booth. Straight Fax is GEM works with fax modems and supports GDOS and FSM/GDOS to allow sending and receiving of faxes. Joppa is considering releasing a version that would work in the background.

#### Micro Creations

Micro Creations was showing off its GIME Term and GIME BBS at the show and was gave a free copy of the GIME BBS to each club at the show. GIME Term can transfer large picture files in seconds using a special protocol, and allows user-friendly interaction with BBSes.

#### Missionware Software

Making its debut at the Missionware booth was Flash II, the long-awaited successor to the original Flash terminal program. Flash II was demonstrated to an eager crowd. Flash II is compatible with DO files from the original Flash, supports TTY, Vidtex, VT-52, -100, -101, -102, -200, -300, ANSI and Prestel. It uses a GEM text editor and includes the "Silent Line" program to allow background file transfers. File transfers include X-, Y-, and Z-Modem, CIS B, and Kermit. Also being shown was LottODDS, a lottery number program that maintains a historical database and can tell you which numbers have a higher statistical chance of appearing. Printer Initializer, a printer driver accessory which allows you to create and modify text drivers was there.

#### Phil Comeau Software

Phil Comeau Software had GramSlam and The Grammar Expert on hand. The Grammar Expert is a grammar reference program, and it is very thorough; it covers almost all topics of Grammar in the english language and should answer almost any grammar-troubled person's problems. The latest version of GramSlam, much improved over previous versions, was being shown. GramSlam checks documents for common grammatical errors, can distinguish American and British spellings, and gives a report on the readability of the document.

#### SoftLogik

SoftLogik had their PageStream 2.1 DTP software in their booth, and they were busy demonstrating it to passers-by. SoftLogik also had seminars on PagStream 2.1 each day.

#### Step Ahead Software

Nevin Shalit was selling Tracker/ST version 3.0. Tracker ST is an extremely complete mailing list program that handles labelling, mail merge and an unlimited number of names. Version 3.0 includes phone dialing, duplicate name warnings, and unlimited filtering. Tracker/ST was also in the Atari booth, shown running under MultiTOS. Upgrades were available and there was a special show discount.

### Sudden Incorporated

Sudden Incorporated was demonstrating the revolutionary new Sudden View text editor. Sudden View treats text the way paint programs treat pixels. You can drag text, and as you drag, the document is dynamically reformatted. The Search function searches at a rate of over 100,000 characters per second. There are no insert or replace modes -- if the cursor is over a space to the left of text, it inserts; otherwise, it replaces.

Sudden Incorporated was selling a cut-down Student version as well as a Master version. People with the Student version can upgrade to the Master version at any time.

### Toad Computers

Toad Computers was there, and they were selling their hard drives as well as the Beetle Mouse and lots of software at bargain prices. A computer was set up, and users were invited to type in their name and address to be put into the Toad mailing list.

### WizWorks

WizWorks had Mugshot and Image Cat as well as clip-art disks. Image Cat prints out a catalogue clip art files so that you never have to load hundreds of clip art files to find the one you need. Image CAT handles ICE, NIC, GEM, IMG, Degas PC? and PI?, TNY, NEO, IFF, PCX and Printmaster SHP files. Mugshot allows you to create faces and caricatures by combining and editing facial features. Mugshot data disks were for sale.

### -- User Groups

There were several user groups at the show, and all of them were busy. ASTMUM, Atari ST/Mega Users of Montreal; SAGE, ST Atari Group of Erie; HBO, Hamilton, Burlington, Oakville; MTST, Metro Toronto ST Group; and WAUG, Windsor Atari Users' Group, were all at the show in addition to TAF. Shawn Smith was at the MTST Booth demonstrating the all-new GEM version of his MaxiMiser offline reader to interested parties. HBO, WAUG, SAGE and ASTMUM were all busy selling library disks.

### -- Online Services

GEnie was trying to recruit new members, and was displaying its Aladdin front-end software. Also present was Canada Remote Systems, a large pay BBS covering Southern Ontario and now Detroit.

### -- Music Exhibitors

Korg, the manufacturer of keyboards and music peripherals; Steinberg-Jones, Steve's Music, Saved by Technology, Musicware and PI Precision Imports were all there busily demonstrating their software and hardware. Musicware was demonstrating C-Lab, Notator, Alpha MIDI, and a range of librarians and editors. PI Precision Imports was demonstrating its line of furniture which allows you to fit all your MIDI equipment in one room. Ray Williams of Steinberg-Jones was there showing off CuBase. There was a room set up specially for MIDI seminars, and one vendor was trying to get rid of keyboards and was giving good deals.

### TALENT SHOW

There were not very many entries in the talent show, but all the entries were of very high quality. One entry in the graphics and animation competition was a slide show of beautiful Degas pictures; another was an animation created with a ray tracer. One of the musical

entries was an impressive rendition of "Great Balls of Fire", done with MIDI of course.

#### LYNX GAMING AREA

The Lynx Gaming Area was full all the time. For \$1.00, people were allowed to a timed game playing session. The high score for each session was registered, and a prize of a Lynx, an AC adaptor and games was awarded at the end of the day for the high score of the day. Users could also sample game cartridges for \$1.00. All proceeds from the Lynx area went to the hospital for sick children.

=====

\* ACE '92 Atari CANADIAN EXPOSITION by Jerry Cross

=====

The Toronto Atari Federation held it's 3rd Atarifest April 4-5. I have attended a lot of shows around the country in the past few years, and I must say that I was extremely impressed with ACE. It was plainly obvious that a lot of work went into this show. I could only attend one day (Saturday), but I had a fantastic time! I hope that anyone planning to put on their own show in the future takes the time to study this one.

ACE introduced two great new ideas for future shows. A MIDI & Graphics stage was constructed just off the main showroom. During the day attendees were entertained by a number of musicals, with graphic demos being projected on a large screen in the background. Scheduled at noon was the Talent show, where participants got to perform or demonstrate their entries. The timing was great since it was lunchtime, and the caterers were right next to the stage area. Eating that monster hotdog and catching the talent show was great!

A Lynx Gaming area was offered too. For a \$1 donation (given to charity) you got to check out some of the Lynx games. That area was pretty busy the whole time I was there, and was very popular.

One surprise to me was the lack of interest in the seminars. I attended several on Saturday and there were only a few in each. One of the most popular seminars at past shows was the Atari Corporation conference, with a chance to meet Bob Brodie. However, only a dozen attended while I was there. I think ACE may have slipped a little by not handing out a seminar schedule with the programs. I had to search around to locate one myself.

The actual list of seminars was very impressive. At any given time there were at least two seminars going on. There was even some hands on training sessions for Calamus and Pagestream (similar to those held in Chicago). Trying to catch all of these seminars and trying to check out the new products in the main hall really kept me running.

I won't give a booth by booth replay of the show. I'm sure that will be covered by some of the other reporters at the show. But here are some of the more interesting things I saw.

ACE had one of the best MIDI display areas I have ever seen at an

Atarifest. Now, I'm not a MIDI person, so most of what they were showing was simply over my head. But the one product that was constantly talked about was Cubase. This program has just been upgraded to version 3.0. According to some of the dealers, it's a realtime sequencer program that can do just about anything you want. The flyer says that it can be anything from a linear MIDI recorder to one of the most advanced compositional tools on the market. Cubase works in realtime, and you can do anything with the sequencer running. The program was constantly being demonstrated at one of the booths. I think the serious MIDI users will want to check into this program.

There were a lot of dealers at the show. I didn't see a whole lot of computers being sold, but software was a hot item. Programs such as Sudden View were hot items. Codehead seems to have a constant crowd near their booth too.

I checked with the TAF folks to see what the attendance was near the end of the day and it was around 900. This seemed a little low but it was still an impressive number. It sure seemed like a lot more people were at the show. The only reason for this would be that more people were spending more time at the show, which I thought was great!

Branch Always Software was at the show demonstrating their new product, the Gemulator. A lot has already been written about this product. Gemulator will let you run Atari ST programs on an IBM computer. Yes, it does work! No, it's not perfect yet. There are still several things that need to be worked on and optimized. The mouse movement on the screen was a little jerky, and there was some slight problem with disk reading. While I was there, several programs were demonstrated. All of Codeheads products worked just fine. We ran Pagestream and it booted up fine, but because we did not have any font or import modules we couldn't actually do any layout work. One of the real nice features is the ability to have true multitasking. While Pagestream was being loaded we set up a solitaire card game to play. I think that once all of the work is finished, this will have as much impact on Atari as the Mac emulators have. One drawback was the lack of games to try out at the show. It's not known how well Gemulator can read protected disks, and some of the British imports may create some problems. More will be known as future beta tests are done. Call Branch Always Software for more information.

Canada Remote Systems was on hand to talk about their bbs service. Billed as North America's finest BBS system, this service offers 400,000 programs and files and 3,500 conferences through a system of nodes around Canada and the US. The cost is \$129 a year. While it does support Atari computers, it also supports IBM, MAC, and all the rest. My experiences on similar systems left me a bit disappointed, since most of the material and support was IBM related. I will have to try these folks out and see what's available for Atari users. To join up call CRS at 800-465-7562.

Micro Creations introduced their new bbs program called GIME BBS. Being a bbs junkie and long time sysop, I naturally had an interest in this product. Its main "gimic" is that it supports GIME graphics. You can create very impressive screens that can be sent over the modem in seconds, and the program can support mouse input. A very creative sysop can make a system that could work entirely through mouse commands. The software also supports the usual assortment of download protocols and message base commands, and comes with its own script language so you can customize it to your own liking. The cost is a

reasonable \$49.95. Their companion terminal program supports graphics and many other features. Contact Micro Creations at 800-833-3963 for more information.

The Atari booth was quite large, and very professional looking. Most of the Atari products were on display, including the ST-Book. This was my first hands-on experience with the ST-Book, and I was very impressed. The usual comments about it was the mouse pad. It's tricky to use, but I guess we can get use to it. And the ST-Book is THIN! It's only 1.4" thick. I saw pictures of the computer before but didn't realize just how thin it was. I hope I can scrape up some money to get one.

Are you interested in getting some British Atari magazines like ST User, ST Action, ST Format, or any of a dozen others? Sure you are. But the stores in your area don't have them and it's very expensive (around \$95) to get them mailed to you. I ran into a company called BMD, which is a world magazine distributor. For only \$104 Canadian (around \$89 US), you can get any of a wide selection of magazines. For the Atari they carry ST Action, ST Review, ST Format, ST User, and ST Applications, plus an assortment of Amiga and IBM magazines (32 in all!). If you order several subscriptions you can get a further discount. It would be a great advantage for user groups to arrange for a group discount, and possibly save as much as 30% off these prices. For more information contact BMD at 800-668-4528.

It has already been reported that several new products would be introduced at the show. Among these are Fast Technology's Tiny Turbo030, which seemed to be getting a lot of attention. Codehead displayed their new Warp 9 Software. Joppa software was showing STstraight FAX, a much improved upgrade to their fax send/receive program.

Flash II was shown for the first time, and the program was demonstrated during a seminar. The features that have kept Flash a long time favorite are still there, and a number of improvements were made. Including Ansi support, better buffer editing and z-modem transfers.

Other regulars at Atari shows were also showing their products, including Gadgets by Small, D.A. Brumleve (sorry I couldn't get a chance to chat with them), Atari Interface Magazine, and a host of others. Brad from Best Electronics managed to get his hard to find parts into Canada, and the usual crowd was always in front of his table.

ACE set up a "User Group Alley" for the groups wanting to sell their p/d disks and sign up new members. Most were from the Canadian area.

That's about it. I know I skipped a lot of vendors, but this show was simply too big to cover all in one short article. I really regret not spending two days at the show since I'm sure I missed a lot of things. I ended up going home tired, happy, and very broke.

I didn't hear too many horror stories about getting across the border, but I ended up my trip with the usual confrontations with the border trolls. Seems that none of the customs agents on duty knew if computer software was duty free or not (hard to believe, right?). I actually had to explain to this guy what computer software was and I had to actually open the package and show him the disk! I figure this guy was either a complete idiot or a jealous IBM user just giving me a bad

time. I hope the rest of you got back ok.

---

\* MULTITOS PREVIEW by David Pischke

---

MultiTOS demonstrated

Toronto, Ont. -- Atari demonstrated MultiTOS, the multitasking version of the TOS Operating System, at the Atari Canadian Exposition on Saturday, April 4. MultiTOS, which allows users to run several programs simultaneously, was demonstrated at the Atari booth by Bill Rehbock. MultiTOS is slated for release in the fall and will be released "for the lowest price as possible", he said.

When asked whether or not the new MultiTOS will be compatible with non-68030 machines, Bill Rehbock replied that it will, but there will not be the safeguard of hardware memory protection. Hardware memory protection prevents programs that are running from writing in other programs' memory space. To increase compatibility with programs such as STalker and STeno, which pass large chunks of information between each other, PRGFLAGS has been modified to include a new flag which indicates to MultiTOS whether that program's memory will be totally private or whether it can be accessed by other resident applications.

The names of resident programs are listed under the desk accessories. The Desktop is always present and is listed as a fuji symbol followed by "Desktop". Applications can be brought into the foreground by either clicking on their menu entry or by activating their windows; MultiTOS was demonstrated running several applications concurrently with no apparent slowdown; switching between applications is also extremely fast. According to Bill Rehbock, MultiTOS, as well as finally breaking the six-accessory limit, will multitask as many programs as will fit in system memory.

As in Gribnif Software's NeoDesk, background windows can now be moved, resized, scrolled and closed without being topped. In addition, the windows of programs running in the background are updated. MultiTOS has been reported to be running with 90 (ninety) windows on the screen at once. As well, with the new MultiTOS, TOS and TTP programs are run in a window; when these programs are run, three new menu headings, Operations, Window, and Font appear in the menu bar.

According to Bill Rehbock, compatibility with earlier releases of TOS is extremely high. MultiTOS ran STalker, STeno, PageStream, and Tracker/ST successfully. Bill Rehbock warned, however, about "dialogueware", or programs which run in one dialogue box; they will not necessarily fail on the new MultiTOS, but may cause problems, because they tend to assume that they are the only application present, causing problems with redraws of windows. In addition, dialogue boxes lock out users from accessing other programs.

MultiTOS may or may not be released completely in ROM. The version demonstrated at the Atari Canadian Exposition was a beta version in program form, and because the multitasking kernel is large, Atari is considering releasing MultiTOS to the public as an extension to TOS on

disk. According to Bill Rehbock, Atari wants a machine that will always come up with at least a single-tasking usable OS, even if both the floppy and hard drives cannot be accessed.

MultiTOS is based on Eric R. Smith's MiNT multitasking Kernal, but has been modified by Atari to allow multitasking of GEM programs. The Desktop Info dialogue now states "MiNT Multitasking Kernal licensed from Eric R. Smith", and MiNT now stands for "MiNT Is Now Tos". "I like what they've done," Eric Smith said. When asked about the licensing agreement and how profitable it was, Smith chuckled. "Atari got a very good deal."

ST-Sutra: Integrated software for the ST

Toronto, Ont. -- In addition to MultiTOS in the Atari booth of the Atari Canadian Exhibition but not being demonstrated actively by Atari was a beta version of a program called ST-Sutra. Programmed by an author in India, ST-Sutra is a Microsoft Works clone, an integrated software package with Database, Spreadsheet, Word Processor and Communications functions. ST-Sutra is fully FSM/GDOS-compatible and data is interchangeable between the tools. When asked about a possible release, Bob Brodie replied, "It's just something we're fooling around with".

=====

\* CALAMUS SL - A FIRST LOOK by John Nagy

Two months ago, AtariUser compared Calamus 1.09N and PageStream 2, and made some predictions about Calamus SL. Several of those predictions were wrong.

Calamus S: According to Nathan Potechin of ISD, there WILL be a Calamus S, someday, that will replace Calamus 1.09N. But apparently not soon. The modular format of SL without the color capabilities (with resulting speed increases) and a lower price were to be the reasons for S, but development has focused on SL to date.

Upgrades for existing Calamus owners: Until May 1, 1992, owners of Calamus 1.09N can upgrade to SL for \$200. Retail for SL is \$795, and the upgrade path will not include some modules that are standard in the retail version, but these can be purchased for about \$100 more.

Speed: We indicated that SL would be slow, perhaps VERY slow on normal ST computers, and that an accelerator or a TT would probably be almost required. Wrong. SL turns out to be nearly as fast in screen redraw and printing as the speedy 1.09N. Complex pages using color separation and advanced features naturally take longer.

PostScript Output: SL will have a Dataformer output module "real soon" to provide a PostScript conversion of output pages. But not yet. And at extra cost when it comes.

Irregular text flow-around graphics: SL does not actually flow text around irregular graphics, but text flow is now controllable via definable "flow paths" and by positioning invisible raster or line

frames to restrict the text flow on command. Thus, diagonal or even circular text borders can be achieved.

#### CALAMUS SL REVIEW

It's been only a couple weeks since ISD Marketing sent AtariUser CALAMUS SL. In that time, I've barely scratched the surface of the potential of this newest entry in the prestigious field of Atari desk top publishing. I can say one thing with complete certainty and conviction: WOW!

#### COMPLEXITY

My first clue to the depth and breadth of the new Calamus SL was the manual. Over 600 pages and being added to daily (more on that in a moment), the manual is nothing short of outstanding in length and detail. And readability. A product of ISD itself, the SL manual was done largely by Lou Rocha, who had but a 28 page command summary to begin with--in German. I hope that if the Starship Enterprise ever needs a manual for warp engine maintenance, Lou will still be around to do it. He takes the incomprehensibly complex and makes it merely obtuse. It works... with effort.

But can a beginner expect to go from zero to publishing using the manual and Calamus SL? Maybe, given enough years. Calamus SL is not for the faint hearted. It isn't even for the experienced user. SL is for professional users.

#### POWER

Over 1,000 commands. That's without reaching into the myriad of add on modules that enable Calamus SL to do just about anything. I have a wall chart of the main menus and icons of SL. It boggles the mind. Things that were one button in Calamus 1.09N are now a multi-step process. That's because your options have opened by an order of magnitude.

You used to set a text style to "outline" with a single click. Now, you first decide if the text will be opaque, inverse, transparent, and of what color or fill pattern. Next, select the outline functions and determine the same things about it, plus the thickness. You have to specify a different color or fill or the outline merges with the text. Want a shadow? Start over with the same options there, too. You see, color alone adds a whole new world to control. If you were cowed by the icon forest of Calamus before, run, don't walk, from SL. But if you want to have unmatched control of everything, SL simply sparkles.

Text control is now dramatic. Skew (like italicizing), compression or expansion vertically, and mirroring are now available for any font. And once you make a change in a font for any area, you have the option of defining and saving it as a text style for later use, even in another session or document. Tag any text with that style, and a change to the style changes all the text. And the new editor, PKS Write, allows editing of text styles and text rulers right along with the text, making pre- or re-formatting text fast. And on-screen in-frame changes are faster now too, due to smart re-write routines that only clear and write areas of the screen that have changed.

The clipboard is now a major asset, allowing interactive transfer of elements from up to seven active documents at once. Rotations of EVERY kind of frame is offered. Virtual memory (caching to hard drive) allows document sizes up to one hundred thousand pages! Adjustments are available in 1/1,000 point increments. A macro record function makes repetitive functions execute themselves with a single keypress of your choice. Yikes.

#### COLOR

Moving to color from monochrome is a system shock. Speed becomes critical as four "plates" are being generated at once. Memory becomes critical for the same reason. A letter size photo in full 24 bit color at 300 DPI will take 22 megabytes by itself! Imagine that at 1,270 DPI. Yet, SL manages to move that data without major effort. It will support most any color adaptor card or monitor that offers at least 640 X 350 resolution (therefore, not the ST's SC1224). But a color monitor is not required for doing color--you just won't see real color during layout. That'll complicate matters, but industry standard color matching systems such as PANTONE (available on most PC and MAC high end software) are being developed for SL. A PANTONE module will be available someday, but a user (Dave Simmer) has independently generated Pantone simulations that should serve most users well in the meantime.

More color discussion will have to wait for a later article.

#### BUGS?

Even though it has been over a year since first promised, Calamus SL is still very much a work-in-progress. Bugs and crashes are plentiful, although mercifully, most result in a dialog that allows you to save your work as you go unwillingly back to the desktop. Others bring up dialogs in German, prompting users to postulate what might be trying to be said. My favorite: "Geladine standardeinstellung", which Todd Johnson of Cherry Fonts guessed meant "Clutch the Chickens in the usual manner."

A number of features simply don't work at all. Some are grayed out, others await a fix that is promised in the next upgrade of the software. The first of those upgrades is due in mere weeks, so these should strike little fear in user's hearts. So I won't spend much time telling you about them--they may be gone before you read this. Suffice it to say that almost everything works, and still, there are more things broken than most software has things in total. ISD will be busy for some time.

As part of the process of making SL perfect, an unprecedented program is being offered by ISD where users can gain discounts on future purchases by assisting the userbase in work-arounds and innovative techniques. It's called USER-TO-USER, and details are available from ISD, and contributions have already added many pages to the manual for everything from finding workable raster densities to page numbering schemes. More data and fixes arrive daily on GENie telecommunication service in the ST Roundtable. At this time, GENie is almost a required accessory in order to use Calamus SL. I have the equivalent of 500 pages of messages and documentation for SL gathered through GENie--and I don't have it all yet.

#### MODULES

Since SL loads external modules for most functions, the future is open-ended for Calamus. No import or export possibility is ruled out, and the more varied of them include video input frame capture and PostScript output. The DATAFORMER module will handle PostScript at about a \$100 cost. SPEEDLINE is an image tracing module available now for under \$50 that converts bit images to traced outlines in vector format. Type Art will replace the font editors for Calamus and will do some of what Outline Art does now. Crescendo will convert polyphonic MIDI files to notated text-sheet music! A multimedia module will even take digitized sound and video for animated and interactive presentations. Nathan estimates that over 100 modules are now in development by DMC and third party programmers.

## SUMMING UP

There's more to Calamus SL than can be told in 600 pages. Too much, in fact, for anyone to take in completely. Even the crew at ISD find new things daily. The future looks incredible.

But should you buy it? The \$795 price tag will let anyone know that they are in for a professional level program, with professional level learning curves, for professional level output. It is simply NOT for casual users. If you are reasonably proficient at using Calamus 1.09N and have discovered that you MUST have more power, you will find it here at a reasonable upgrade price of \$200. If you find 1.09N to be more complex or to offer more power than you typically use or understand, don't bother with SL.

I'll bet that 80% of the SL buyers will never use the power they will have. But that's the nature of home computing, isn't it? If you DO upgrade to SL, keep 1.09N on your system too. You'll find it to be a joy to return to when you need simple layouts and want them fast. When you want the ultimate... SL will be there, waiting.

===== \* PERUSING COMPU SERVE by Michael D. Mortilla =====

Tortoise: Today's exchange may have served a little to right your course. Good day, Achilles.

Achilles: Good day, Mr. T.

from Godel, Escher, Bach - by Douglas R. Hofstadter

Nary a week goes by on CompuServe that we don't see a message or two on that dreaded ogre, the hard drive crash, and this week was no exception. A lot can be learned from reading the messages in these areas. In fact, you might even get some information or tips that could help \*you\* survive a drive crash! Which, oddly enough, brings us to the Telecommunications section of the Ataripro forum.

Actually, this is a continuation of last weeks saga, where a member lost everything on his hard drive \*and\* his back up! It was no surprise that this thread got quite a bit of attention from members.

Some of the points we felt were worth mentioning were the following:

Fm: Peter J. Joseph

"No truer words were ever spoken, except maybe:

BACKUP! BACKUP! BACKUP!

In my opinion, one of floppy disks greatest virtues is the fact that they can't hold much data, making it virtually impossible to lose everything at once without a fire or act of God or something. I don't care how removable a Syquest is, if everything you have is backed up on one cartridge, it's as risky as a hard drive. I'll keep my floppies for backups thank you. I'll shut my mouth now. Sorry about your disaster..."

And from the "victim" we hear:

Fr: John Damiano[Transierra] 74575,60 (X)

"Another thing...I would recommend that people not store really important things on the C partition. That seems to be what gets trashed. I wonder if I had just re-partitioned C if I might not have been able to save the next 5 partitions. Hummmmmmm."

And in response:

Fm: Dana P. Jacobson

"That's a good suggestion, John. But, what people have to remember in order to do that is to make sure that when they format their hard drive(s) that they only make it large enough to hold their "system" files (AUTO folder, ACC's, etc.) and leave a little extra room for expansion. Most people create partitions of equal size, or large partitions as possible. If they create a large C partition and follow your advice, they've wasted a lot of unused space on that drive.

As John Barnes mentioned in his CN article recently, frequent back-ups help minimize these problems. It is a wise idea to help yourself and help the developers who provide these programs!

Dana

and an additional reply with "words of wisdom" and \*experience\*:

Fm: MYLES COHEN

"Hey, Now that you have all that room in your new hard drive...it might be a good idea to back up your Root partition onto another partition (as well as on floppies)..."

That way you have quick access if your root partition is trashed...You can use this as your every day backup and your floppies as your once a week...or whatever... backup.

Any way that is what I do and it has saved my butt so many times that I recommend it highly...

BTW when you reconstruct the root directory after it has been zapped... be sure to reorder the AUTO folder or you'll not get the same results

you used to get before the accident...

Oh yes, you're right...you could have saved what was on the other partitions by only working on the guilty one...You can think of each partition as a separate individual hard disk drive."

And just when you thought "Aha! That's it!" Somebody jumps in...

Fm: john barnes

"Restoring simply the C partition while leaving the others alone is not a trivial matter. ICD's Cleanup software does provide a mechanism for restoring the partition information without reformatting the drive, but the steps to do this must be taken prior to the crash. When building a new set of hard drive partitions it is a good idea to save the partition information to a floppy disc file so that it can be restored later.

I agree that the C partition seems to be the most failure-prone, which is one reason that I try to avoid storing documents there.

Applications I can always rebuild from the distribution media."

And finally, when asked "wasn't everything on floppies?" we'll give the last word to our "victim":

Fm: John Damiano[Transierra]

"Hohoho..that's a good one. Why would I need floppies with my fabulous Syzest removable media 44 Meg drive mechanism ready to go. What could possibly go wrong go wrong go wrong."

Moving to the Hardware specific section, there is some interest among the members in the new SM147 monitor from Atari, and it would appear that the old SM124 can be traded in! But could there be another solution? Let's see what George Richardson has to say:

"I wired up a standard SAMTRON flat screen mon VGA monitor to work with the ST. It required that I readjust the size of the display, but only cost about \$120-\$130 mail order. Since the new Atari monitor doesn't have a speaker anyway, this could save quite a bit of cash.

George Richardson  
Merlin Group, Inc."

Well, who would let \*that\* message just sit and age? John Damiano (he was our hard drive crash victim above!) seized the thread:

"What needs adjustment. Was it too small? Was it a comparable procedure to enlarging the SM 124? That's a great price. Do they automatically scan 70 hz or do you have to configure them to that freq?"

The next day, George replied:

"They automatically scan 70hz. The size was small, and the proportions were off, probably because the 70hz VGA mode is 640 x480 rather than 640 x400. The procedure was pretty simple actually. The only problem I have with it is that I never adjusted the neck magnets to correct the linearity for the new size, so there's some distortion near the edge."

\$130 by mail? That's less than it cost to fix an SM124 recently! This is definitely 'gonna get filed away for future reference!

In the Programming area, Myles Cohen asks about a subject we mentioned in this column a few weeks ago:

"Can anyone download from the ATARI archives at the umich? Do you have to pay into a service? What's the phone number? Protocol? Any information you can give will be much appreciated?"

And, as usual, the answer came back! This time from John Barnes:

"Miles, atari.archive.umich.edu is available to people who can access the Internet, which is a worldwide communications network running on dedicated lines. In order to access it you need a valid account on a machine that is connected to the network. A number of Atarians on CIS do have such access."

And finally, we leave your pallets salivating with a message from that bastion of programming, Charles F. Johnson. In the Atarivend forum, he proudly posts the preliminary benchmarks for Codehead's Warp 9 program.

Fm: Charles F. Johnson  
To: All

"Here are some benchmarks I did with Quick Index yesterday afternoon, on my Mega ST4 with TOS 2.06 (thanks to the TEC) and a T16 accelerator.

These benchmarks give an impression of the differences you can expect to see with Warp 9 installed. The system used for testing had a fair amount of TSRs (AUTO programs) and desk accessories installed, such as HotWire, MaxiFile, and MultiDesk Deluxe.

There are four columns of numbers, representing the Quick Index results:

1. With Warp 9 as the last program running in the AUTO folder, but without the Warp 9 Control Panel accessory. (Which uses an extra 18K.)
2. With Warp 9 running early in the AUTO folder (right after PINHEAD.PRG), and the Warp 9 Control Panel installed in MultiDesk Deluxe. (This configuration outperforms all others.)
3. With Turbo ST 1.84 installed in MultiDesk Deluxe. (NOTE: Turbo ST is not compatible with TOS 2.06, and will be deinstalled after running any program; so these results were taken immediately after loading Turbo ST in MultiDesk.)
4. With Quick STE 3.04 as the last program running in the AUTO folder.

Note that Quick Index does not directly support TOS 2.06 (yet?), so these numbers are obtained with the "TOS 1.4" button highlighted.

These numbers are not intended to be taken as gospel. Your mileage may vary.

Test	.Warp 9 Last .in AUTO Folder .Without Warp 9 Control Panel	. Warp 9 .Early in AUTO .Folder, with Control Panel	. Turbo ST 1.84 .Loaded into MultiDesk	. Quick STE .v3.04 Last in AUTO
TOS Text	351%	456%	468%	332%
TOS String.	1907%	2001%	1854%	1889%
TOS Scroll.	133%	137%	134%	131%
GEM Dialog.	394%	417%	404%	397%
	.	.	.	.

- Charles"

0000000000oooooooooooo! Next week!

---

\* BASIC AT COMMANDS --- Part 2 of 3

---

This article discusses configuration registers and result codes and contains a comprehensive list of basic AT commands, as well as the extended AT command lists for those modems equipped with MNP5 and V.42/42bis. In addition, for your convenience, modem default lists have been included.

\* (&F) Fetch Hayes Factory Default Configuration:

The &F command configures the modem with Hayes factory default settings, including:

AT Commands: B1; E1; L2; M1; Q0; V1; X4; Y0; &C0; &D0; &G0; &J0, &L0; &P0; &Q0; &R0; &S0; &X0; and &Y0.

S Registers: S00,000; S01,000; S02,043; S03,013; S04,010; S05,008; S06,002; S07,030; S08,002; S09,006; S10,014; S12,050; S14,AAH; S16,80H; S18,000; S21,00H; S22,76H; S23,17H; S25,005; S26,001; and S27,40H.

\* (&F1) Recall Microcom Factory Default Configuration:

The &F1 command configures the modem with Microcom factory default settings, including:

AT Commands: B1; E1; L2; M1; Q0; V1; X4; Y0; &C1; &D0; &G0; &J0; &L0; &P0; &Q0; &R0; &S0; &X0; and &Y0.

S Registers: S00,001; S01,000; S02,043; S03,013; S04,010; S05,008; S06,002; S07,030; S08,002; S09,006; S10,014; S12,050; S14,AAH; S16,00H; S18,000; S21,20H; S22,76H; S23,17H; S25,005; S26,001; and S27,40H.

\* (&F2) Use Sierra Defaults, MNP Mode:

The &F2 command configures the modem with MNP mode Sierra default settings, including:

AT Commands: B1; E1; L2; M1; Q0; V1; X4; Y0; &C0; &D0; &G0; &J0; &L0;

&P0; &Q5; &R0; &S0; &X0; and &Y0.

S Registers: S00,000; S01,000; S02,043; S03,013; S04,010; S05,008; S06, 002; S07,030; S08,002; S09,006; S10,014; S12,050; S14,AAH; S16,80H; S18,000; S21,00H; S23,17H; S25,005; S26,001; and S27,49H.

\* (&F3) Use Sierra Defaults, V.42bis Mode:

The &F3 command configures the modem with V.42bis mode Sierra default settings, including:

AT Commands: B1; E1; L2; M1; Q0; V1; X4; Y0; &C0; &D0; &G0; &J0; &L0; &P0; &Q5; &R0; &S0; &X0; AND &Y0.

S Registers: S00,000; S01,000; S02,043; S03,013; S04,010; S05,008; S06, 002; S07,030; S08,002; S09,006; S10,014; S12,050; S14,AAH; S16,80H; S18,000; S21,00H; S22,76H; S23,17H; S25,005; S26,001; and S27,49H.

\* (&G) Guard Tone:

&G0 (or &G) No Guard Tone (default)

&G1 550 Hz Guard Tone

&G2 1800 Hz Guard Tone

\* (&L) Leased/Dialup Line Selection:

The &L0 or &L (default) command selects dialup operation (asynchronous or synchronous and full or half duplex). The &L1 command selects leased-line operation (asynchronous or synchronous).

\* (&P) Make/Break Pulse Dial Ratio:

The make/break ratio for &P0 (or &P) is 39% make and 61% break, which is the standard for the United States. The &P1 command sets the make/break ratio at 33%/67%, which is compatible with the United Kingdom/Hong Kong standards.

Example: AT &P1 <CR> Sets Make/Break ratio to be compatible with United Kingdom/Hong Kong.

\* (&S) DATA SET READY (DSR):

The &S and &S0 commands causes DSR to remain ON at all times while the modem is turned on (default).

The &S1 command causes the DSR to operate in accordance with CCITT V.22bis/V.22 recommendation.

\* (&T) Test Commands:

The command &T0 or &T will terminate any test currently in progress. The T command should be the last command in the command line.

The command &T1 will initiate a Local Analog Loopback. This command is used to verify the path which includes the local modem, and the local data terminal equipment. S Register 18 (test timer) or &T0 can be used to end a test.

Test &T1 Example:

ATS18=0&T1 (S18 is the test duration timer.)

Test timer equal to zero will allow the test to run without stopping,  
&T1 starts the test.

One small step for man...	User message
+++	Escape sequence
OK	Modem acknowledges +++
AT&T0	Ends test
OK	Test complete

The command &T3 will initiate a Local Digital Loopback. This test allows data being sent from the remote modem to be looped back, in the digital section of the modem, and sent back to the remote modem. This local mode allows the remote modem to run a remote digital loopback test. Both modems must be connected before this test can start.

&T3 Test Example:

+++	Escape
OK	Acknowledgement
ATS18=0&T3	Test started
OK	Loopback mode

The operator completes any tests at this point.

AT&T0	Ends test
OK	Test ended

The command &T4 allows the modem to grant a request from the remote modem for a Remote Digital Loopback (default).

The command &T5 prohibits the local modem from granting a request from a remote modem for Remote Digital Loopback.

The command &T6 is used to test the local data terminal equipment, the remote and local modems, and the telephone circuit. The local terminal sends a test message to the remote modem. If conditioned, the remote modem will loop its receive stream back to the local data terminal. The local terminal will compare the receive stream with its transmitted stream to verify the connection. The complete connection and modems are tested in this modem (the remote terminal is not tested). The &T6 command does not work at 300 or 600 bps.

&T6 Test Example:

The user must place both modems on line.

+++	Escape
OK	Command mode
ATS18=0&T6	Test started
One small step for man...	Test message
+++	Escape
OK	Acknowledge escape
AT&T0	Test ended
OK	Test complete

The command &T7 initiates a Remote Digital Loopback with Self-Test in accordance with CCITT Recommendation V.54. During the test phase, an internally generated data pattern of alternate binary ones and zeros at

the selected bit rate is applied to the scrambler. An error detector capable of identifying errors is connected to the output of the descrambler. At the end of the test, a three-digit error count from 000 to 255 is displayed. If 000 is displayed, the modems and telephone circuit passed the test.

**&T7 Test Example:**

The user must place both modems on line.

+++	Escape
OK	Acknowledged
ATS18=0&T7	Starts test
AT&T0	Ends test
000	Test found no errors
OK	Test acknowledge

The command &T8 initiates a Local Analog Loopback with Self-Test in accordance with CCITT Recommendation V.54. During the test, an internally generated data pattern of alternate binary ones and zeros at the selected bit rate is applied to the scrambler. An error detector capable of identifying errors is connected to the output of the descrambler. If the modem is on-line when this test starts, the carrier will be lost. This test is useful in checking the local modem's transmit and receive circuits.

**&T8 Test Example:**

ATS18=0&T8	Starts test
AT&T0	Ends test
000	No errors
OK	Acknowledgement

**\* (&V) View Profiles and Stored Numbers:**

The &V commands allows you to view AT command and S Register settings, as well as stored phone numbers.

**\* (&Wn) Write Configuration To Non-Volatile Memory location n:**

The &Wn (n=0,1) command writes a command profile (the currently active profile) in one of two nonvolatile RAM memory locations (1 or 0). The 0 profile is restored automatically whenever the modem is turned on, or upon issuing the Z0 command. S Registers saved in the nonvolatile RAM are S0, S14, S18, S21, S22, S23, S25, S26 and S27. Both regular and MNP commands are saved.

A subset of the Register configuration is saved in NVRAM by the &Wn command. If &Wn is issued while in the Escape State, the "Error" message will be returned, and the current configuration will not be saved. The &W command must be issued last.

Example: AT S0=1 &W1 <CR>      Writes auto answer to NVRAM location 1.

**\* (&Yn) Choose Configuration Profile:**

You set this command according to which configuration profile you want to make the active profile when the modem is turned on or reset. &Y0 will make configuration profile 0 active; &Y1 will make configuration profile 1 active.

\* (&Z) Store Telephone Number:

The &Zn=x (n=0..3) command is used to store up to four telephone numbers for dialing at a later time using the DS dial-stored-number command (asynchronous) or under control of DTR (synchronous mode 2). The x represents an ASCII string composed of dial digits and modifiers. The dial digits include 0 through 9 for pulse or touch tone dial, and A, B, C, D, pound and \* for tone dial. The dial modifiers include T P R W !, at sign and :.

Example:

Terminal:	AT &Z2= T 1 (602) 961-2997
Modem:	OK
Result:	Modem stores T16029612997 in its nonvolatile memory at location 2.

The number can be dialed from asynchronous mode by issuing the following command:

Terminal:	AT DS=2 Modem: T16029612154
-----------	-----------------------------

Up to 30 symbols (dial digits and modifiers) may be stored. Unrecognized characters, such as spaces and dashes, are ignored and do not need to be included in the count. If more than 30 symbols are supplied, the dial string will be truncated to 30. If &Z is issued when NVRAM is not present, or if the modem is in the Escape State, the "Error" message will be returned, and no dial string will be stored.

## 2) MNP Commands

Megahertz MNP modems provide three basic modes of operation.

- \*Direct
- \*Normal
- \*Reliable

A Direct connection is equivalent to any standard 2400 bps modem connection. In a Direct connection, the maximum through-put is equal to the connection rate, and the terminal (or Data Terminal Equipment, DTE) rate must always match the connection rate. For instance, if the DTE is set to 2400 bps and the modem connects at 2400 bps (CONNECT 2400), the through-put will not exceed 2400 bits per second. On the other hand, if the DTE is set to 2400 bps and the modem falls back to a 1200 bps connection (CONNECT 1200), the terminal must be adjusted to operate at 1200 bps, and the through-put will not exceed 1200 bits per second.

In a Normal connection, the modem provides data buffers. This allows the terminal rate to be different from the connection rate. However, the maximum modem-to-modem through-put continues to be equal to the connection rate. For instance, if the DTE is set to 9600 bps and the modem connects at 2400 bps (CONNECT 2400), then as long as the DTE does not overflow the transmit buffer, data will pass intact, and the terminal is permitted to remain set at 9600 bps. Through-put will not exceed 2400 bits per second.

In a Reliable connection, the modem provides data buffers so that the terminal rate can be different from the connection rate. In addition,

it provides the MNP protocol, which provides error detection and correction. The protocol utilized is MNP (Microcom Network Protocol), developed by Microcom, Inc. Maximum modem-to-modem through-put is determined by the Class of Reliable connection negotiated, but will never exceed the slowest terminals rate. Flow control is provided in the same fashion as for Normal connections.

#### AT COMMANDS FOR MNP

##### \* (\A) Maximum MNP Block Size:

This command controls the maximum block size transmitted.

```
\A0 Maximum block size transmitted = 64  
\A1 Maximum block size transmitted = 128  
\A2 Maximum block size transmitted = 192  
\A3 Maximum block size transmitted = 256 (default)
```

##### \* (\B) Transmit Break:

```
\Bn n = 1 to 9, 300mS break always transmitted.
```

##### \* (\C) Set Auto-Reliable Buffer:

```
\C0 Auto-Reliable Fallback character and buffer disabled. (default)  
\C1 Buffers 200 character. If the buffer fills before a Reliable  
link has been negotiated, the modem will make a Normal  
connection.  
\C2 If the ASCII code set by the %A command is received before a  
Reliable link is negotiated, the modem will make a Normal  
connection.
```

##### \* (D/n) Dial Stored Telephone Numbers:

The D/n command will dial the number that is stored in &Zn. For example, to dial the number stored in &Z3, specify D/3.

##### \* (DL) Dial Last Dialed Telephone Number:

The DL command will dial the last ATD number issued.

##### \* (En) Standard Link Data Mode and Echo Data:

```
\E0 Do not echo data during standard link Data Mode  
\E1 Echo data during a standard link Data Mode
```

##### \* (\G) Set Modem-to-Modem Flow Control:

```
\G0 Disables Modem-to-Modem flow control (default).  
\G1 Enables Modem-to-Modem XON/XOFF flow control.
```

Determines flow control method during a Normal connection.

##### \* (\J) BPS Rate Adjust:

```
\J0 Disables Bps Rate Adjust.  
\J1 Enables Bps Rate Adjust (default).
```

##### \* (\K) Set Break Control:

```
\Kn n = 0 to 5, indicating method of Break processing (default = 5).
```

Break processing is determined by this command and the condition of the modem-to-modem connection, as shown by the following table.

	Break received from DTE while in CONNECT state during Reliable or Normal connection.	Break received from DTE while in CONNECT state during Direct connection.	Break received from remote modem while in CONNECT state during Normal connection.	\Bn command received from DTE while in COMMAND state during a Reliable or Normal connection.
\K0	Enter COMMAND state, do not send break to remote modem	Immediately send break, then enter COMMAND state.	Purge buffers, immediately send break to DTE.	Purge buffers, immediately send break to remote modem.
\K1	Purge buffers, immediately send break to remote modem.	Immediately send break to remote modem.	Same as \K0	Same as \K0
\K2	Same as \K0	Same as \K0	Immediately send break to DTE	Immediately send break to remote modem.
\K3	Immediately send break to remote modem.	Same as \K1	Same as \K2	Same as \K2
\K4	Same as \K0	Same as \K0	Send break to DTE in sequence with data.	Send break to remote modem in sequence with data
\K5	Send break to remote modem in sequence with data.	Same as \K1	Same as \K4	Same as \K4

\* (\L) Block MNP Link:

\L0 Selects Stream Link (default)  
 \L1 Selects Block Link

Stream link is the Normal mode of MNP operation.

Note that this product does not attempt to emulate Microcom Block link operation. When block link is selected, operation is identical to stream mode operation, with the exception that the maximum block size is 260.

\* (\N) Set Operating Mode:

\N0 Selects Normal mode operation  
 \N1 Selects Direct mode operation (default)  
 \N2 Selects Reliable mode operation  
 \N3 Selects Auto-Reliable mode operation

\* (\O) Originate Reliable Link:

This command directs the modem to initiate a Reliable link regardless of whether or not the modem originates or answers the call. This command is only valid in the "escape" state. If a Reliable link is already in progress, the modem simply returns online.

\* (\Q) Set Serial Port Flow Control:

\Q0 Disables flow control (default)  
\Q1 Enables XON/XOFF flow control  
\Q2 Enables uni-directional hardware flow control  
\Q3 Enables bi-directional hardware flow control

Determine flow control method used to control DTE-to-modem data flow.

\* (\S) View Active Configuration:

This command displays the state of the most important modem configuration parameters 8 lines at a time. When "ENTER" is pressed, the next group of parameters are displayed. There are two groups of 8 lines and a third with 6.

\* (\T) Set Inactivity Timer:

\Tn n = 0 to 90 minutes (default = 0)

Determines how long the modem will stay connected with no data communications activity. When set to 0, the inactivity timer is disabled. The timer is ignored when in the Direct mode.

\* (\U) Accept Reliable Link:

This command directs the modem to accept a Reliable link request regardless of whether or not the modem originates or answers the call. This command is only effective in the "escape" state. If a Reliable link is already in progress, the modem simply returns online.

\* (\V) Modify Result Code Form:

\V0 Selects standard 89024 result codes (default)  
\V1 Selects result codes modified for MNP operation

Standard result code	Modified result code		
Long form	Short form	Long form	Short form
CONNECT	1	CONNECT 0300/REL	20
		CONNECT 0600/REL	21
CONNECT 1200	5	CONNECT 1200/REL	22
CONNECT 2400	10	CONNECT 2400/REL	23

\* (\X) Set XON/XOFF Pass-Through:

\X0 Recognize XON/XOFF characters but do not pass them through the modem. (default)  
\X1 Recognize XON/XOFF characters and pass them through the modem.

When \X0 is in effect, XON/XOFF characters sent from the DTE to the local modem are not transmitted to the remote modem. Likewise, XON/

XOFF characters received from the remote modem control modem-to-modem data flow, but are not passed on to the local DTE.

When X1 is in effect, XON/XOFF characters sent from the DTE to the local modem are transmitted to the remote modem, and XON/XOFF characters received from the remote modem control modem-to-modem data flow and are passed on to the local DTE.

=====

\* LYNX REVIEWS

=====

The following article is reprinted in Z\*Net by permission of AtariUser magazine and Quill Publishing. It MAY NOT be further reprinted without specific permission of Quill. AtariUser is a monthly Atari magazine, available by subscription for \$18 a year. For more information on AtariUser, call 800-333-3567.

#### Awesome Golf (Lynx)

Forget those 5:00 AM tee-offs. With AWESOME GOLF, you can now play the links on the Lynx. This is a full featured golf game, allowing you to play on one of three courses. Each hole features an overhead map where you survey the course and aim your shot. You pick your club from a bag of 14, then take your best stroke, done with a power bar using three button presses: one to start the swing, a second to set the strength, and a third to determine hooks, slices, and fades. To round things out, hints are available to beginners, and a driving range reports useful statistics.

AWESOME GOLF plays golf with detailed realism. Each club's range, usage, and effect on the ball are accurately duplicated, and the texture and properties of the terrain and green are crucial factors. Games can be for either 9 or 18 holes, feature three levels of wind, and handicapping of individual players. You can even select the clothing, race and sex of your player, and women golfers are allowed to tee off closer to the hole. The only flaw is the multiplayer option (up to four); the ComLynx option is almost pointless, as it would have been easier to allow multiple golfers to play on one Lynx.

Graphics on AWESOME GOLF are highly detailed and smoothly animated. Swings are seen from behind your player, while the ball's flight is viewed from overhead. Still images highlight events such as bogeys, penalties, and birdies. The voice of your caddie is occasionally heard, making remarks, congratulating strokes, and laughing at blunders.

This is a very good golf game, capturing the details of the sport with enough features to enhance its appeal. AWESOME GOLF should not be missed. Atari Corp., \$29.95. - Robert Jung

#### Tournament Cyberball (Lynx)

Welcome to the 21st century, where robots play in sports too deadly for humans. This is TOURNAMENT CYBERBALL, the futuristic game based on

American football--to a point. The ball heats up during play, so the offense must carry the ball far enough to cool it down, else face an explosion. Smart coaches save game funds to replace the basic robot players with enhanced models at any time during play.

Up to four can play TOURNAMENT CYBERBALL, against each other or one of four computer coaches. On field, each player controls a robot, making the passes and blitzes needed to win. But once play begins, weaknesses appear in this arcade conversion. There is no difference in ability or in plays among the six available teams. Handoffs are unpredictable, reducing the value of running plays, and opposing passes are difficult to intercept. Robots never suffer any damage, and the "turbo defense" option has been removed. The game pace is too fast in some spots and very sluggish in others.

Additional flaws are largely shortcomings of the Lynx conversion, a loss only by comparison to the arcade version. While a player unfamiliar with the original may be interested, the legion of arcade TOURNAMENT CYBERBALL fans should avoid this title. Atari Corp., \$39.95. - Robert Jung

#### XYBOTS (Lynx)

The robots are at it again. EarthBase 26-B has been overrun by alien Xybots, and now you must infiltrate the station, battle the enemy, and stop the takeover. XYBOTS is an adaptation of the Atari Games arcade title, where one or two players explore a space station from a first-person perspective.

This is a respectable conversion that retains all the features of the original. You wander through each level's maze, grabbing coins and keys, while fighting Xybots with unlimited shots or an energy-draining zap. Reach the exit, and you can buy more equipment before going to deeper levels with more surprises and dangers.

The game is easier than the coin-op--the robots aren't too bright and you start off well-armed. Experienced players can use Warp Exits to travel to higher stages quicker. About every tenth level is a fight with a Master Xybot, but the main game is maze-running and robot-blasting.

The Lynx graphics are almost identical to the arcade. The stations are sparse, but your fighter, Xybots, and other items are animated and detailed. A minor gripe is that rotating the view is done in harsh 90-degree increments, which can be disorienting. Sounds effects are copied closely, and although the mechanical voices have been removed, in their place are several techno-rock background tunes.

While the difficulty has been scaled back from the arcade version, XYBOTS on the Lynx offers enough of a challenge to keep the typical player back for more. Atari Corp., \$39.95. - Robert Jung

So I was driving down the street yesterday when I observed one of the promotions on a PC store window. The sign boasted the low price of \$79.50 for virus protection software. Hmm.. George Woodside's is shareware. Then I thought of the other high prices that I would be sure to find inside. Well, being that April Fool's day has past I probably can't get away with awarding all Z\*Net readers \$500.00 gift certificates for software, but, I can try and do the next best thing. Contained herein is a wonderful collection of value oriented programs. So.. it's up to you. Go out and buy the virus scanner for \$79.50 and give it to a friend who has a PC, or, put your MasterCard away, pour yourself a cool spring time drink, turn on some music, and relax while reading over all the choices you have to make.

And, while on the subject of choices, are you like me and have trouble deciding on names? Well, rather than calling your cat Squirt, why not look into ALPHA.LZH? Alpha (The Name Generator), may just be the right thing for you if you still haven't chosen a name for the new baby, or if you are trying to decide on the perfect name for the family iguana! So, no longer do you have to use wimpy names at your next D&D game either! This utility creates lists of names, thousands of them, and you can use your own custom parameters. It is Monochrome freeware.

And if you really are like me, you can't make sense out of half of what you read. Let alone that which is already scrambled on purpose! So, select JMBL.TOS, a program that unscrambles 5 or 6 letter words for jumble puzzles. It will check all the 5 letter combinations in about 15 seconds and all of the 6 letter combinations in about 1 minute. This file is a self-extracting archive. Double click on the file and it will automatically extract the files from the archive. It is TT Compatible.

And for those who just don't want to read anything, cause they feel a picture is worth....

MONOGIF.LZH MONOCHROME GIF VIEWER is a Monochrome GIF viewer. It is fairly quick and has a few dither options. Works on 1/2 MEG machines. It works as TTP program. TT Compatible in ST High Resolution.

QGIF.LZH FAST GIF VIEWER W/SOURCE is a quick GIF viewer (.TTP), that works on 1/2 meg machines. Two versions.. GIFcolor shows GIF's in Color, and GIFscale shows GIF's in shades of gray. Two nice, fast programs. See QG.LZH for assembly source codes. USE UNLZH172.PRG to extract! (Quester LZH won't work). TT Compatible in all res., but extended color capability is not available.

MOVEPICS.LZH Moving Pictures is in celebration of the official release of Warp 9, the awesome new screen acclerator (and lots more!) from CodeHead Technologies! Moving Pictures allows you to have Warp 9 random background pictures for all three ST resolutions and all three TT resolutions! Gives Desk Manager users a random startup picture for both color and monochrome systems!

RSHADE30.LZH RAYSHADE 3.0 is RayShade 3.0, an internet distributed ray-tracer, similar to QRT. Outputs 24bit files to MTV or RLE formats. Includes a ST 22 grey scale viewer. Seems to be more powerful than QRT. Can also produce stereo pictures. TESTED->TOS 1.4 COLOR 2 MEG. Docs talk about a 2 meg minimum.

But to put things back into the proper conTEXT... <smile>

1STVIEW.LZH is a German desk accessory allows you to view ASCII, First Word, .IMG, and even .RSC files w/in any GEM program. Supports different types of displays, and takes up about 50K of RAM. This is from Germany, but not difficult to figure out how to operate. But, ALL DOCS are in GERMAN.

DISPLAY.LZH Latest and greatest version of the Revenge Document Displayer. It's much faster, and has some nice features too. Search for any string, print out portions of text, auto-depack documents, and more. Includes current version of Ice-packer and unpacking source code too. Custom versions are available.

This Special Software Shelf Section (Say that ten times fast) has organizational programs... Mailing lists to hard disks!

JCLABELL.LZH JC LABEL JC Label, a mailing label manager/printer from the UK will organize your names for you. Search, create, edit, and print mailing labels. Nicely done "AutoZest" interface, works in both ST High and ST Medium resolutions.

PGSHEL10.ARC Page-Shell v 1.0 ~ This program is for users of Hi-Softs' PAGE.TTP. It offers an easy to use graphic interface (ZeST), can save configurations and can move/delete files + create folders. If you own PAGE.TTP and have a MONO monitor this is for you...

DATAKEN.ARC DATAKEN 1.2 contains Dataken v1.2 The Binary File Processor. Edit, analyze, and manipulate any kind of file. Display and edit any portion of file in it's natural format. Comparison mode for file analysis, database and C struct modes. This version is now a fully functional shareware offering. Written by Tyson Gill, GT Software.

ALIBI17.LZH is a small utility from Germany which creates "alias" files, which are small executable files that serve to run another program. Okay, so they're not like "alias" on the Macintosh, but it may be of use in some situations. Freeware Documentation in .DVI (Tex) format enclosed, but it's in German. Prg. is in Eng. TT Compatible and remember there are GERMAN DOCS.

FKILL.LZH File Killer Version 1.20 The File Killer is a very small AUTO folder utility that allows you to delete your precious files so that others can't read them. This program couldn't be easier to use, just place it in your AUTO folder and boot your ST. Now whenever you delete a file while holding down the 'Alternate' key it will be completely erased beyond recovery by even the best un-delete utilities.

WORM.LZH ST-WORM (Write Once Read Many) provides you with a 'delete protection' utility. This stops you from accidentally erasing your precious files from disks. ST-WORM is fully configurable and has been thoroughly tested. Full documentation included. Don't miss this essential utility.

VIDEOTECH VideoTech, a public domain video tape organization program from Germany. Written by TigerSoft. Please note that this program, and all documentation, is in German.

RE\_BOT.LZH Re - boot From Mark Matts - Allows you to switch on both your hard drive and ST together - the ST then waits for a user defined period and then reboots , when the HD has got up to speed - very useful

and time saving.

GMAP\_2.ARC Generates a graphical map of the data on your disks. This new verion is smaller and fixes a bug in the previous version with some HD configurations.

WHATIS.ARC is now up to 5.9. It identifies over 125 file types - ARCs, LHarcs, PRGs, pics, ACCs, animations, etc... no more "what kind of file is this?" problems! Runs as a PRG or ACC or a TTP-like program on any ST/TT in any rez. Short docs included in the ARC. All the features of previous versions, plus adds over a dozen new file types.

CAL 6.2A Cal v6.2a of the calendar accessory available for Atari Computers. This version has more displays of alarm times, more scan options, more date calculations, the ability to move dialog on screen, and more! Also included is new version of CalShow v6.2a., which shows and sorts alarm events, has new week and today buttons, and return to menu instead of exit.

ZAP62B.ARC This ARC contains a Superzap file that will update Cal 6.2a to version 6.2b.

And for folks that would rather listen to their text and not see it!

MORSE.LZH is a Morse Code trainer. Configurable in terms of speed, tone, and practice contents. Will translate any file into Morse code! I wounder if I could use it for a radio operator's license test? Nah.. But, it is Freeware. TT Compatible using 24BIT.PRG ONLY! ST Medium and High Resolutions.

And for those who wish to see their text in different original styles.  
\* These files were contributed by Alan Font. :)

FELTMARK.LZH FELT MARKER CALAMUS FONT This Type 1 font is so superb, & professional, that Nevin wrote that he had to convert it for Calamus users. Originally a Type 1 PostScript font, it was converted to a CFN with Didot Prof. This is an informal, "Felt Marker" typeface. Both upper and lower case, punctuation, and smart quotes. It does not contain forein characters. And.. it gives an incorrect serial # in Calamus SL.

AARCOVER FONT Post Script type 1 font - AARCOVER

CALAMUS ST SCREEN FONT DEJA\_VU.LZH This free font is complete (not a demo.) It's a Calamus font format representation of the ST high resolution screen font. It's drawn to precisely emulate the screen font's proportions and spacing. Great for published program listings or software manual illustrating etc. Requires Calamus.

By the way OBURST\_2.ARC (also OUTBURST 2.0) is the new Demo of OutBurST! v.2.0 now compatible with ST, STE and TT's. This prg. can reduce the time it takes Pagestream to output to fast HP LaserJet and Deskjet compatible printers. PRINTING PAGE time for a full page with an HPIIIP and ADSPEED is about 19 seconds compared to 300 seconds with TOS1.4. Also speeds up GDOS & all std. prin'r output even for non-HP compatibles. HPLJHC.LZH was just posted as well.. HP Laserjet GDOS drivers for 150 and 300 dpi.

And talking about Demos... several were posted this past week.

FEDEMO.LZH FRONTE.LZH FRONT END Demo ver. of Front End(tm), a GUI that can be incorporated into programs written in GFA Basic. Front End is like "Autizest" but with more features, it is a collection of routines and procedures that allow the programmer to build an attractive user interface with a minimum of fuss. This program demonstrates some of the effects that can be achieved, and the code needed to do so. UK Shareware

EZTXT1.LZH Demonstration version of Easy Text 1.4. Everything works except print is setup to only print 1/4 page (unlike v. 1.2 which does not represent the commercial version accurately but does print out fine). Easy Text Plus is a Desktop Publisher at a low price.

SPRO\_610.ARC Fully functioning limited entry copy of the popular Sales-Pro from Hi-Tech Advisers. This VERSION 6.10 contains MANY NEW FEATURES! Read the file 'SALEDEMO.DOC' for installation info and the file 'UPDATE.DOC' for a list of what's been added since V6. Both included. Add the files from the separate ARC 'SPADD610.ARC' to make this SUPER SALES-PRO.

SPADD610.ARC These are the Add-On Modules and Accessories for the Sales-Pro demo system. Add these files to the main Sales-Pro point-of-sale and inventory control and accounting system to add customer file support, receivables, mail merge, payables, general ledger, kits, etc.

FZT\_D212.LZH FREEZE DRIED TERMINAL V2.12 Demo of version 2.12 of FreeZe Dried Terminal! Fixes some minor bugs from version 2.11. Too many features to list. A great terminal program, well worth the download, and it is apparent that Arron is doing his best to support this program.

And two quick term program sidenotes, RUFTRN.LZH will translate RUFUS version 1.06 to English. Included are ZAP files to do the translation of the program and resource files and complete documentation in English. Plus.. VANTERM 4.0 COMMUNICATION TERMIN (Vanterm 4.0) the popular communications terminal's latest revision has been posted.

XFONTKIT.TOS Demo of Font Kit, a very full featured font editor. Comes with a font uncompressing program and quite a few fonts. The file is a self-extracting LZH... Copy it to an empty floppy and run it.

GRAMMAR EXPERT DEMO Limited but working demonstration of Grammar Expert, from Phil Comeau Software. Grammar Expert is an online reference for the rules of English grammar, punctuation, and effective writing. It runs as a desk accessory, so you can use it from your favorite word processor. If you aren't sure of the correct way to punctuate a sentence, how to make verbs agree with subjects, or are looking for advice on how to make your writing more effective, just tap in to Grammar Expert.

PROTEXT DEMO This is the demo version of ProText, a full featured word processor, being imported by Michtron! There is a good review of this program in the latest issue of Atari Advantage. Now you can take a 'test drive' and see how you like it. This demo will only edit a 2K file, but it is otherwise full featured.

PICCOLO PAINT PROGRAM Demonstration version of Piccolo, a drawing program from Germany. It is said to be impressive stuff, and it supports many picture formats, lots of options, neat interface with "live scrolling", and much more. However, THIS PROGRAM IS IN GERMAN.

Even if you don't speak the language, there is enough here to interest most ST users. Archive includes PRG and ACC versions, and many .IMG pictures to enjoy. Monochrome only. Tested on TOS 2.05

DOSOUND This is a Demo version of two powerful sound chip development programs. DoSound is a complete song editor designed to create interrupt driven music through the Atari's sound chip. Full MIDI support is included. DoEffect is a sound effects processor utility program that provides complete access to the entire range of sound chip functions on one screen. Both programs feature an elegant GEM interface and save their files in XBIOS(32) interrupt format. The output files can be merged into your own programs to add music and sound effects. Many sample songs are included as well as documentation. If you're interested in music, sound or MIDI, this package is for you! Not TT compatible.

And so you still haven't found anything that SOUNDS GOOD? (hint)

QUARTET PLAYER 3 might be right for you. Quartet Player 3: Now plays Quartet songs with ease. New player displays a nice drum set while giving song information. Works on any ST or STE in any resolution. Contains 2 song files and voice sets. The file's description says it has far superior sound to any other player such as TCB Tracker or Noisetracker, etc.

PLAY20.ZOO This utility will play 8-bit sound samples. To call it from a command shell (e.g. GULAM), type: play <pathname> <Hz> where <pathname> is the name of the sample file, and <Hz> is the playback frequency in Hertz. V. 2.0 includes support for STE's enhanced sound capabilities. Looping and signed magnitude sample support as well.

COSH24.LZH Accompanist v2.4 by Henry Cosh. 16 track sequencer. It now supports Standard Midi Files.

MMM201.LZH MIDI MUSIC MAKER 2.01 is the update to Midi Music Maker. It will now play Cakewalk 2 as well as Cakewalk 3 as in version 2.0. There are 14 different basic types of music files from 7 different types of computers that the program will handle. The program gives you control over volume, channels, presets, tempo, and you can create SMF files in format 0 or format 1.

And while on the subject of Midi, RSXXMDXX.ARC can be used to install an expanded RS232 and/or MIDI buffer from 1k to 31k in size. Useful for high-speed modem's and programs that use the MIDI port. It is TT Compatible. HSP232.LZH is a desk accessory that allows you to set your RS232 baud rate to 38,400, 76,800 or even 153,600 baud! Docs are in German, but the DA is simple... just 3 radio buttons. FREEWARE. And, X\_INCONT.TOS is In-Control, a program used for manipulating MIDI sysex data from your ST. The thing that makes it interesting is that you may configure it's 20 sliders however you like! There's a few templates included. It can be a program or accessory. It is a Self-Extracting LZH - file, so copy to a floppy and run... MUSICAL NOTATION SYMBOLS IN IMG contains a 300dpi .IMG file of music notation symbols, which can be used to add musical notation to all of your DTP documents. This archive is FREEWARE from Custom Compositions.

For those who want even more Bang for their Buck!

X\_BANG.TOS BANG Bang! is a game that runs on a color or mono monitor. It's ported from the PC and is strategy oriented... It is

from the cover disk of Atari ST User April 1992: Bang! is a variation of Clayton Walnum's Demolition Man, so we know which came first! Exploding mines are hidden on a grid and it's up to you to figure out where they are.

OTRPLACE.LZH OTHER PLACE "Other Place" is a basic, one person semi-asteroids like game with emphasis on shoot & dodge. Fun. It runs in all ST screen resolutions. It has several levels of difficulty and overall game speed to help accommodate different skill levels and computer speeds. Instructions included. Freeware.

ROULET17.LZH ROULETTE RULET17.LZH This is the game of Roulette. Learn how to win big bucks and how to place your bets. Good Graphics. COLOR MONITOR REQUIRED TT Compatible in ST Low Resolution.

MUTCATER.ARC MUTANT CATERPILLARS From the April 1992 Atari ST User cover disk: Geez, as if Jeff Minter's mutant camels weren't enough, here come their cousins, the mutant caterpillars! This game demonstrates the new STOS 3D programming language. It also comes with a STOS demo. LOW RES ONLY.

NUKE101D.LZH STARNUKERS 1.01D StarNukers version 1.01D. This is an updated version to 1.00. Fixes several bugs. Two player space war game played on two ST's via modem or null-modem link. Also includes a one player practice mode. Color monitor required. TT Compatible in ST Medium Resolution.

PENGUIN Penguin! They're small, look like they're wearing tuxes and they need to get through this maze. So it's up to you, pardner, to round up these suckers. Remember, it's all in the mouse action! LOW REZ ONLY.

Programmers can play with these!

MENUMK21.LZH MENU MAKER 2.1 Menu Maker v2.1 by M.J. Matts This utility allows GFA BASIC programmers to easily create drop-down menus. You can create, edit, save, load, and test menus from within this program. A handy utility if you don't want to bother with a RSC file for your program. Freeware from the United Kingdom. ST High/Medium resolutions tested, might support more.

Z80 CROSS ASSEMBLER Z80 Cross Assembler: D&S Software of the UK have released the ST Assembler as Shareware. Z80 has the look and feel of DevPac in their opinion, but at a much lower shareware price.

MINT UTILITIES FOR .93 Here's the latest version of the MiNT utilites for version 0.93, with source code included.

EDHOOK.ARC EDHOOKS2.ARC EdHak Hooks... How to let users use EDHAK.ACC as an editor for your application. This explains the GEM message pipe calls you need to use to see if EdHak is present, send stuff to it, and receive from it -- all without any disk access. Various options are covered. The transfers are virtually instant. This is how QuickCIS interfaces with EdHak. It also allows a method that uses a disk file if you need that. (for EdHak v 2.3)

GIF C SOURCE CODE This is MGIF, the PD monochrome GIF display (source code only). This version includes a "flicker" display which simulates 16 gray-scales for better simulation of color display.

STOS BLITTER EXTENSIONS These extensions allow STOS to access the Blitter chip (if you have one...) for lightning fast memory-to-memory copying, among other neat effects. The speed increase is stunning! Works with STEs and Mega STs. Includes both language and compiler files. Shareware from England.

And last but not least, another blitter file, an update, some packing info., and your FIX for the week!

TOS 2.05 MONO FIX This is a fix for the TOS 2.05 MONO shift bug. It goes in the AUTO folder. It also includes a program which can show off the bug.

BLITSIM This program simulates a blitter on a regular ST without one or a TT. Resolution independant, and should work on an SST (not tested).

UIS PATCH 3.0 -> 3.32 Patch your Universal Item Selector from 3.0 to 3.32.

AFXTIP.TXT This text file is readable online. It explains (a little) what AFX and PFX are all about. (NOT THAT you all need to have this explained agined! <smile>). Since the GERMAN Docs are not easily deciphered without some reading up, this may help some of you put these excellent prgs to good use!

AFXTIP.ARC is a file comparison prg. demonstrating the use of the AFX.PRG found in the LZH201j pkg.

The above files were compiled by Ron Berinstein co-sysop CodeHead Quarters BBS (213) 461-2095 from files that were either directly uploaded to CodeHead Quarters BBS, or downloaded from GEnie, Compuserve, and Delphi online services.

~~~~~  
To sign up for DELPHI service, call (with modem) (800) 695-4002. Upon connection, hit <return> once or twice. At Password: type ZNET and hit <return>.  
~~~~~

~~~~~  
To sign up for GEnie service call (with modem) (800) 638-8369. Upon connection type HHH and hit <return>. Wait for the U#= prompt and type XTX99436,GEnie and hit <return>.  
~~~~~

~~~~~  
To sign up for CompuServe service call (with phone) (800) 848-8199. Ask for operator #198. You will be promptly sent a \$15.00 free membership kit.  
~~~~~

Z\*Net International Atari Online Magazine is a weekly publication covering the Atari and related computer community. Material published in this edition may be reprinted under the following terms only. All articles must remain unedited and include the issue number and author at the top of each article reprinted. Reprint permission granted, unless otherwise noted, to registered Atari user groups and not for profit publications. Opinions present herein are those of the individual authors and does not necessarily reflect those of the staff. This publication is not affiliated with the Atari Corporation. Z\*Net, Z\*Net News Service, Z\*Net International, Rovac, Z\*Net Atari Online and Z\*Net Publishing are copyright (c)1985-1992, Syndicate Publishing, Rovac

Industries Incorporated, Post Office Box 59, Middlesex, New Jersey,  
08846-0059, Voice: (908) 968-2024, BBS: (908) 968-8148, (510) 373-6792.

---

Z\*NET: Atari ST Online Magazine  
Copyright (c)1992, Rovac Industries, Inc...

---